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## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Recommendation for Honor or Merit Award

FROM:

Harold P. Ford  
NIO At Large

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

18 October 1984

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S  
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1.

VC/NIC (Signature)

10/22/84

HOM

2.

3.

D/PAO (Signature)

10/24

4.

5.

C/NIC (Signature)

25 Oct 84

RG

6.

7.

Protocol Branch, 7E31, HQS

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CLASSIFY AS APPROPRIATE

**RECOMMENDATION FOR HONOR OR MERIT AWARD**

(Submit eight copies with: description of performance or service warranting award; biographic profile; and unclassified citation)

1. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]			2. NAME OF PERSON RECOMMENDED (Last, First, Middle) Ernst, Maurice Charles			3. POSITION TITLE NIO/Economics		
4. GRADE SIS-V	5. YOB 1925	6. SD [REDACTED]	7. OFFICE OF ASSIGNMENT NIC	8. EXTENSION [REDACTED]	9. RECOMMENDED AWARD Distinguished Intelligence Medal			
10. INCLUSIVE DATES FOR WHICH RECOMMENDED June 1954 - October 1984				11. IF RETIRING, DATE OF RETIREMENT 9 November 1984		12. POSTHUMOUS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
13. HOME ADDRESS (include ZIP CODE) [REDACTED]				14. NAME OF SPOUSE Divorced		15. HOME PHONE [REDACTED]		

Have any other persons received or been recommended for an award for this service or act?

☐ yes (If yes, attach list of full names and awards.)  
☒ no

TITLE AND SIGNATURE OF EMPLOYEE MAKING RECOMMENDATION Herbert E. Meyer, Vice Chairman, National Intelligence Council		DATE 10/22/84
HEAD OF [REDACTED] CAREER SERVICE (Career service of nominee)	TITLE AND SIGNATURE George V. Lauder	DATE 10/24/84
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICE	TITLE AND SIGNATURE	DATE
Chairman, NIC DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OPERATING COMPONENT	TITLE AND SIGNATURE Robert M. Gates	DATE 11/25/84

**REPORT OF HONOR AND MERIT AWARDS BOARD**

The Honor and Merit Awards Board having considered the foregoing recommendation on \_\_\_\_\_:

- ☐
- recommends approval
- 
- ☐
- does not recommend approval
- 
- ☐
- recommends award of

REMARKS

APPROVED

SIGNATURE

TYPED NAME OF CHAIRMAN, HONOR AND MERIT AWARDS BOARD

SIGNATURE

TYPED NAME OF RECORDER

DATE

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BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Maurice Charles Ernst

TITLE & GRADE: National Intelligence Officer/Economics (ret.), SIS-05

EDUCATION: 1948 - Yale University, BA, International Relations  
1951 - Columbia University, MA Economics  
1959 - Columbia University, PhD, Economics

EMPLOYMENT: 1944-1946 - US Army  
1951-1954 - Economic Analyst, Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Department of State  
1954-1971 - Analyst, Branch Chief, Division Chief, Deputy Director, Office of Research and Reports/Office of Economic Reports, CIA  
1971-1981 - Director, Office of Economic Reports, CIA  
1981-1984 - National Intelligence Officer/Economics, National Intelligence Council, CIA

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Narrative

Maurice Ernst has rendered outstanding service to the Central Intelligence Agency and to the US Government for a period of more than 30 years. His contribution has been unique and - throughout - one of distinction.

Mr. Ernst began his Agency career in June 1954 when he was assigned as a GS-09 analyst on Soviet economic affairs in the Office of Research and Reports, bringing with him rich experience previously gained in military service, a PhD degree from Columbia University, and three years duty as an analyst in the Department of State's Bureau of Intelligence and Research. He remained affiliated with O/RR (later the Office of Economic Reports) for the next 27 years, rising through positions of increasing responsibility in ORR/OER, including Branch Chief, European Satellites; Chief, International Research Area; Chief, International Division; Deputy Director; and, finally, Director of OER for a ten year period, 1971-1981. In September, 1981 he was named National Intelligence Officer/Economics, and served in that capacity until his retirement, to enter private business, in November 1984.

Throughout this CIA career Mr. Ernst has carried out additional, out-of-office, responsibilities in splendid fashion, gaining respect for

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CIA in the process. These duties have included Chairman of the NFIB's Economic Intelligence Committee; numerous presentations to top US policymakers and other senior audiences, in and out of government -- and for which he received many commendations; attendance at Harvard University's Advanced Management Program; successful  recruiting efforts in academia; participation in numerous senior policy forums as the DCI's representative; the sponsoring of special equal opportunity recruiting programs at CIA; active contact with many of America's leading business and financial figures; and numerous consultations with senior officials abroad.

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The above paragraphs provide only the barest outline of milestones Mr. Ernst has passed during the course of a remarkably distinguished career. In addition to performing his regularly-assigned responsibilities, he has been called upon by successive DCI's to undertake special tasks which demanded sophisticated economic judgment, incisive analytical ability, and objective integrity. He played a major role in creating the best economic research and analysis office in town, by far, helping develop a whole generation of expert CIA economic analysts. Through his enormous intellectual drive and insight, he encouraged analysts to more rigorously examine the issues at hand and thereby improve their assessments. And by putting his keen mind to bear on complex National Intelligence Estimates, he has been a principal contributor to the expansion and improvement of such interagency studies which has occurred in recent years -- and to their increasing utility to senior US policymakers.

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In sum, Maurice Ernst has served this Agency long and very well in countless ways, large and small, both highly visible and behind the scenes. His record eloquently attests to his being a professional of rare ability and exceptional accomplishment. We believe he justly merits the recognition afforded by awarding him the Distinguished Intelligence Medal. He has not previously been awarded an Agency medal.

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D R A F T (5503A)

PROPOSED CITATION

Maurice C. Ernst is hereby awarded the Distinguished Intelligence Medal in recognition of his exceptionally meritorious service with CIA over a period of 30 years, during which he served as an economic analyst, Director of Economic Research, and National Intelligence Officer/Economics. During this period Mr. Ernst played a leading role in building a strong and vigorous economic research capability for the Agency, and in bringing keen, relevant estimative judgments on world economic problems to top-US policymakers. His rigorous standards of professionalism, his sophisticated command of the complexities which mark his chosen field, and his imaginative initiative enabled him to make a highly effective, distinguished contribution to the US intelligence effort in a field of greatly increasing significance to the security and national interest of the United States. Through his outstanding work over the years in positions of key importance, he earned the admiration and respect of his colleagues in the intelligence and policymaking communities, reflecting the highest credit upon himself, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the United States Government.

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